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02-04-04

02355.912117

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Takaai ENDO, ET AL. )  
Application No.: 09/818,606 )  
Filed: March 28, 2001 )  
For: IMAGING APPARATUS )  
CONTROLLER AND CONTROL )  
METHOD THEREOF, IMAGE )  
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND )  
METHOD THEREOF, AND )  
PROGRAM CODE AND STORAGE )  
MEDIUM )

Examiner: Unassigned  
Group Art Unit: 2613  
February 2, 2004

**RECEIVED**

FEB 03 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed.

The cited document was recently cited in a Japanese Office Action, dated December 22, 2003, which was issued on a corresponding counterpart application. A copy of the Office Action is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

An English Abstract is provided for the cited document, which Applicants believe sufficiently summarizes the disclosed subject matter.

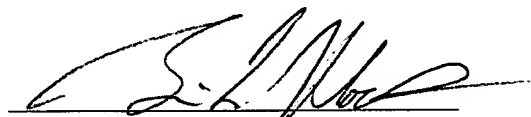
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner, and that the next official communication indicate that such information has been considered by returning an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

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BLK/lmj

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>02355.012117</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>09/818,606</b>		
Submitted to the PTO: February 2, 2004			APPLICANT <b>Takaai ENDO, ET AL.</b>				
			FILING DATE <b>March 28, 2001</b>		GROUP <b>2613</b>		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
					<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">RECEIVED</div>		
					<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">FEB 03 2004</div>		
					<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Technology Center 2600</div>		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		<b>11-098342</b>	<b>04/09/99</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

BLK\lmj